

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11
/085 W

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P R 101522Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1062
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

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PASS NSC BRZEZINSKI, RICHARDSON FROM THORNTON; SECRETARY'S
PARTY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, RH, US, UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: PRESS COVERAGE OF VANCE-OWEN VISIT

1. RHODESIA HERALD OF APRIL 18 FEATURED HEAVY COVERAGE OF
VANCE-OWEN VISIT HIGHLIGHTING SMITH'S PROMISE TO GIVE
MATURE CONSIDERATION TO PROPOSAL FOR ALL-PARTY CONFERENCE.
PROMINENT FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE ALSO GIVEN TO ZUPO DEMONSTRATORS
WHO PELTED MOTORCADE ON WAY TO AIRPORT WITH EGGS AND TOMATOES.

2. INTERPRETIVE REPORTING FOCUSED ON ALLEGED STATEMENT
MADE "DURING BREAK IN THE TALKS BY BRITISH AND AMERICAN
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SOURCES" THAT NKOMO AND MUGABE PUBLIC STATEMENTS DID
NOT REFLECT THEIR TRUE POSITIONS AND THAT NKOMO COULD BE
PERSUADED TO RETURN TO TAKE PART IN THE INTERIM SETTLEMENT.

3. ANOTHER COLUMN CLAIMED THAT OWEN IS CONFIDENT
THAT THE RHODESIANS CAN HOLD OUT MILITARILY MUCH LONGER
THAN AMERICANS THINK HE CAN. IT ALSO CLAIMED THAT

PATRIOTIC FRONT DEMANDS FOR A ROLE IN THE POLICE HAVE BEEN DISMISSED OUT OF HAND AND THAT THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS AGREE THAT THE POLICE SHOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED.

4. HERALD EDITORIAL SUPPORTED IDEA OF RHODESIAN PARTICIPATION IN AN ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE AND URGED NEED FOR COMPROMISE ON BOTH SIDES.

5. RHODESIAN TELEVISION ON APRIL 17 GAVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO ALL ASPECTS OF THE VISIT INCLUDING FULL COVERAGE OF VANCE-OWEN PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THE TALKS. RHODESIAN CENSORS, HOWEVER, FORBADE AIRING OF THE INTERVIEW GIVEN AT MARIMBA HOUSE PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. ONLY AFTER ALL-DAY TUSSLE BETWEEN CENSORS AND RHODESIAN TV NEWS BUREAU WAS THE INTERVIEW FINALLY BROADCAST ON TUESDAY EVENING.

6. HERALD OF APRIL 19 GAVE PRINCIPAL COVERAGE TO OWEN'S APPEARANCE IN PARLIAMENT. INTERPRETIVE PIECE CLAIMS THAT US-UK DELEGATION SHOWED CONCERN OVER TRIBAL WARFARE IN RHODESIA, ADDUCING THIS AS REASON FOR GETTING NKOMO (BUT NOT NECESSARILY MUGABE) INTO SETTLEMENT. PROMINENT FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE GIVEN TO ALLEGED STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG THAT PF LEADERS ARE SEEKING PERSONAL POWER. THIS IS SAID TO INDICATE A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GROWING RIFT BETWEEN THE US AND THE PF.

7. FOREGOING PREPARED IN SALISBURY BY THORNTON (NSC). NELSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, MINISTERIAL VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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